

Draft Only
Approval Pending
**SUMMARY of
PROCEEDINGS**



JOINT EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETING INFORMATION

October 24 and 25, 2013
Room 302, State Capitol Building
200 W. 24th St.
Cheyenne, Wyoming

JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Hank Coe, Cochairman
Representative Matt Teeters, Cochairman
Senator Jim Anderson (SD02)
Senator Paul Barnard
Senator Bill Landen
Senator Chris Rothfuss
Representative Kathy Connolly
Representative John Freeman
Representative Hans Hunt
Representative John Patton
Representative Jerry Paxton
Representative Garry Piiparinen
Representative Albert Sommers

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Representative David Northrup

OTHER LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative John Eklund

LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE STAFF

Dave Nelson, School Finance Manager
Don Richards, Director of Budget Fiscal Division
Matt Willmarth, School Finance Analyst
Tania Hytrek, Staff Attorney

The Committee Meeting Summary of Proceedings (meeting minutes) is prepared by the Legislative Service Office (LSO) and is the official record of the proceedings of a legislative committee meeting. This document does not represent a transcript of the meeting; it is a digest of the meeting and provides a record of official actions taken by the Committee. All meeting materials and handouts provided to the Committee by the Legislative Service Office, public officials, lobbyists, and the public are on file at the Legislative Service Office and are part of the official record of the meeting. An index of these materials is provided at the end of this document and these materials are on file at the Legislative Service Office. For more information or to review meeting materials, please contact the Legislative Service Office at (307) 777-7881 or by e-mail at lso@wyoleg.gov. The Summary of Proceedings for each legislative committee meeting can be found on the Wyoming Legislature's website at <http://legisweb.state.wy.us>.

OTHERS PRESENT AT MEETING

Please refer to [Appendix 1](#) to review the Committee Sign-in Sheet for a list of other individuals who attended the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

The Joint Education Committee (JEC) met to receive information from various educational agencies and interest groups. Topics discussed included the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group revenue projections, various school finance and education reports, school safety and security, statewide data and technology, early childhood programs and draft legislation. The Committee heard testimony from the Wyoming State Board of Education, the Department of Education, the Department of Workforce Services – Research and Planning, the Department of Family Services, the Department of Enterprise and Technology, the Governor's Office and various consultants.

CALL TO ORDER.

Chairman Coe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following sections summarize the Committee proceedings by topic. Please refer to [Appendix 2](#) to review the Committee Meeting Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Minutes from the July 15-16, 2013 Joint Education Committee meeting were approved without revision.

CREG REVENUE PROJECTIONS.

Mr. Don Richards, Legislative Service Office, spoke to the Committee about the Wyoming State Government Revenue Forecast, Fiscal Year 2014-Fiscal Year 2018 and the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group (CREG). [Appendix 3 and 4](#). He noted the FY2013 General Fund (GF) exceeded the January 2013 projected levels by a total of \$333.3 million, but FY2014 General Fund forecast revenues decreased from the January 2013 projections by a total of \$16.9 million. Mr. Richards stated the October 2013 forecast of FY 2013-2014 biennial revenue includes a decrease of anticipated revenue direct to the Budget Reserve Account (BRA) of \$1.3 million in severance taxes and \$36.1 million in Federal Mineral Royalties. He further noted for FY 2013-2014 biennium, projected GF/BRA combined revenues in excess of appropriations of the statutory reserve amount of \$104.4 million, reflect a net surplus of \$62.0 million. Mr. Richards discussed the flow of funds that will be transferred to the Legislative Stabilization Reserve Account (LSRA) as a result of language in the 2012 budget bill, concluding this will result in a balance of \$1,612.5 million for the LSRA.

Mr. Richards moved on to explanation of the impact of the CREG on the School Foundation Program Account (SFP) and the School Capital Construction Account (SCCA). He noted over the next three fiscal years, the October 2013 CREG report reduced projected revenues directed to the state's profiled education accounts by \$29.9 million. He followed up, however, that the SFP and the SCCA received just over \$90 million in FY 2013 revenue in excess of the prior projections. Mr. Richards noted the actual FMRs directed to the SFP in FY 2013 were \$263.0 million, \$9.1 million less than expected, largely due to the federal budget sequestration. He further noted that the FMR estimates for the FY 2013-2014 to be directed to the SFP were decreased by \$18.1 million in the October 2013 CREG report and for FY 2015-2016 the SFP were decreased by \$17.9 million.

SCHOOL FINANCE MONITORING SERIES OF REPORTS.

Staff provided the Committee with an overview of the work conducted related to monitoring of the school finance model, the legislative requirements associated with this work and the history of these efforts. See

Appendix 5, Cover Memo and Tab A. Staff noted to the extent possible the duties are being transferred from outside consultants to the Department of Workforce Services, Research and Planning Division. Dr. Christiana Stoddard, Legislative Consultant, discussed the report and mechanisms available to analyze the indicators of cost pressures for teaching salaries in Wyoming. **See Appendix 5, Tab C and Appendix 6.** She provided information regarding the importance of the cost pressures and the impact on teacher quality. Dr. Stoddard followed up with information regarding the relationship between salary and teacher quality. Dr. Tom Gallagher, Department of Workforce Services Research and Planning, spoke to the Committee about his work in relation to this issue. **See Appendix 5, Tab B.** He noted transition of many functions and data analysis from outside consultants to the Department of Workforce Services. Dr. Tony Glover, Department of Workforce Services Research and Planning, summarized the details of the analysis performed, the data gathered and the conclusions reached in relation to hiring qualified personnel and the ease of securing a district or schools first choice candidate for a teaching position. Committee members posed several questions in relation to this issue, inquiring about the details of the surveys and the uniformity of the responses received. Dr. Stoddard and Dr. Gallagher responded that the responses received are dependent on the perception of the individual answering the question. They noted survey responses are somewhat subjective, but it is only one element of a myriad of information and data points presented on this issue. Dr. Gallagher moved on to discussion of the “Monitoring School District Human Resource Cost Pressures” report. He discussed the unemployment in Wyoming and the regional and national wage trends. Senator Rothfuss inquired about the consideration of regional states in this context and its appropriateness. Doctors Stoddard and Gallagher responded to the question, noting the regional comparison was at the direction of the Committee, that national figures were previously included but the data utilized is not currently performed by the organization that previously provided this information, and additionally, noted the difficulty of accounting for cost-of-living factors in the context of national wage comparisons. Representative Patton inquired about the inclusion of regional cost analysis in the material provided. Dr. Stoddard noted the regional cost adjustment as applied in the school finance model accounts for this variation. Dr. Gallagher moved on to discussion of migration of educational personnel. Upon conclusion of the presentation, Chairman Coe inquired about a summary related to market pressures. Dr. Stoddard responded to the question, concluding it is wise to be watchful of salaries in light of the recovery of the recession, but that at this time there does not appear to be pressure in relation to teacher salaries in Wyoming. She did caution that non-teaching personnel salaries appear to be on the rise, but further stated that the impact at this time on the teacher labor market is unknown.

Jed Cicarelli, Wyoming Department of Education, School Foundation Program, briefed the Committee on the fifth annual “Continued Review of Educational Resources in Wyoming” (CRERW) as compiled by the Wyoming Department of Education. **See Appendix 5, Tab D.** He discussed the history of the report and the summary of the changes, including the addition of preliminary fiscal year 2012-13 district and model data; noting the WDE continues work closely with stakeholders to refine and improve data collection and reporting methods utilized by the CRERW report. Mr. Cicarelli summarized the observations by model component in the areas of average daily membership, demographics, staffing, class size, salaries and expenditures. He concluded by presenting a summary of this findings, noting elementary schools employ fewer teachers than provide for in the funding model, resulting in larger average class sizes than suggested by research and that larger elementary schools generally employ a greater number of aides than generated by the funding model. He stated schools do not appear to employ tutors to the extent funded and allocated by the model and that Wyoming's average teacher salaries remain among the highest in the nation and appear to be extremely competitive in attracting and retaining the best and brightest teachers. Mr. Cicarelli reporting Wyoming's per pupil expenditures are among the highest in the nation and that funding for non-staff categories in the fund model continue to exceed district-reporting expenditures.

Chairman Coe made a motion, seconded by Senator Landen, to forward the “Monitoring the Cost-Basis of the K-12 Wyoming Funding Model” to the Joint Appropriations Committee (JAC) for consideration. The Committee engaged in substantial discussion regarding the recommendation and the possible recommendation for an external cost adjustments (ECA). After substantial discussion, Chairman Coe tabled his motion until after the receipt of public testimony on the topic.

Public Comment

Donna Lytle Kummo, Sweetwater County School District #2, stated her district implements the model as intended, has implemented the sixteen-to-one student teacher ratio and that the impact of the lack of an ECA is impacting salaries and hiring decisions and requested the Committee consider recommending an ECA.

Marty Kubso, Sheridan County School District #1, Superintendent, and Jeremy Smith, Business Manager, testified that the district has cut funding significantly, eliminated several positions, issued a salary freeze for current employees and reduced the contribution for health insurance as a result of the lack of an ECA. Both gentlemen requested the Committee consider forwarding an ECA to the JAC.

Mark Stock, Laramie County School District #1, spoke to the Committee about the experience of his district, noting that his district has not experienced significant cuts due to the growth of the district, but noted in the years to come the lack of an ECA will impact the district.

Don Dihle, Campbell County School District #1, addressed the Committee and requested an ECA be forwarded to the JAC of 7.5%. He testified the district is spending its reserves to cover the gap.

Rod Kessler, Johnson County School District #1, spoke to the Committee about the cuts experienced by his district and noted it is spending down the reserves due to the lack of an ECA. He requested the Committee consider increasing funds for technology and the non-personnel aspects of the model, citing specifically to professional development.

Johnathan Brock, Niobrara County School District #1, Superintendent, stated the district has grave concerns regarding the lack of an ECA and the impact it has on his district. He noted the district is unable to hire qualified personnel for vacant positions, citing specifically a science position, due to the remote location and lack of amenities.

Sweetwater County School District #2, Business Manager, addressed the Committee regarding the cost of goods from 5 years ago to today. He gave several examples of everyday goods that have experience significant increases and the prices associated with those items and requested the Committee consider forwarding an ECA.

Senator Anderson noted concerns related to small districts and the financial difficulties experienced by this group specifically. Co-chairman Teeters noted this issue will be taken up in recalibration in 2015.

Senator Rothfuss moved, seconded by Representative Sommers, that the Committee forward a recommendation to the Joint Appropriations Committee to support an ECA for education in each year of the 2015-16 budget to account for inflation and ensure that purchasing power is not degraded from 2013-14 levels. He further moved, the Committee requests that staff provide appropriate indices for projecting the required adjustments. Chairman Teeters expressed concern about voting on a motion that does not have a specific number related to the ECA recommendation. Senator Rothfuss responded the motion will allow JAC the flexibility to make a decision for an amount that recognizes

inflation exists and that without an adjustment the purchasing power of the school districts will be eroded. He further suggested if this motion fails, he will make a recommendation the Committee adopt an ECA of 7.5% in light of his review of the indices. Chairman Teeters requested clarification from staff regarding the previous ECAs and indices utilized by the Committee in recommending an ECA. Staff explained the handout with Table 1: Cost Indices for the Four Major Funding-Model Components and the graphic representation of this information. **See Appendix 7.** Staff responded the cost for inflating the personnel portion of the model at a rate of 2% will result in a cost of \$38 million for the first year and that compounded over the biennium it would result in a cost of \$57 million. The motion was adopted.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY REPORTS.

Guy Cameron, Chair of the Governor's School Safety Task Force, spoke to the Committee about the efforts and members of the Governor's Taskforce. **See Appendices 8 and 9.** Superintendent Michelle Hoffman, Fremont County School District #14, spoke to the Committee about the sub-committee that she chaired in relation to school resource officers (SRO). She discussed the work she conducted, including the employment of officers in Wyoming's schools and the duties of these officers. Superintendent Hoffman discussed results of the survey submitted to school districts, which indicate that school districts are supportive of employment of SROs and the use of such positions as opposed to other mechanisms for school security. Michael Lowell, Chief of Police in Rock Springs, Wyoming, also addressed the Committee, noting the participation rate by school districts in the survey was excellent. Chairman Teeters requested information on the recommendations by Superintendent Hoffman's sub-committee. She responded that the Taskforce recommends funding be provided for employment of SRO in schools across Wyoming, with initiation of the program via a grant process. Chris Walsh, Chief of Police Department in Casper, Wyoming spoke to the Committee about crisis management plans. He noted the poor response by law enforcement to the survey on this issue. Chief Walsh recommended statutory revisions be made to require schools and districts have a crisis management plan in place, require drills be performed to test the plan on a regular basis and mandate training for school safety. Mr. Cameron concluded his presentation by recommending the Committee consider the legislation related to SROs as introduced last year. He also recommended the Committee consider, via a budget footnote, the creation of a workgroup within the Department to continue study of the school safety. Chairman Teeters stated he will draft legislation to expand fire drill requirements to include crisis management plans with a requirement for performance of drills twice annually. He also noted the existence of the placeholder in the proposed school facilities budget for school security.

Colorado Safe2Tell Program.

Susan Payne, Colorado Attorney General's Office, spoke to the Committee about the Safe2Tell program, implemented in Colorado as a result of the Columbine shootings. **See Appendices 10 and 11.** She briefed the Committee on the components of a successful school safety program and the lessons learned from the U.S. Secret Service Study with regard to school safety. Mrs. Payne outlined the comprehensive school safety initiative implemented in Colorado via Safe2Tell, including target hardening, environmental design, time barrier, policy procedures, situation awareness, barriers to reporting, informational sharing, and the necessity of a multi-discipline team. She noted a successful school safety approach must include education, awareness, early intervention, prevention, accountability and follow up. Mrs. Payne stated a key component of the legislation as passed in Colorado included that information could be given anonymously and allowed for the appropriate agencies to share information as necessary. She noted the importance of fostering a climate of respect and trust, with a team approach in addressing school safety. She cited the necessity of utilizing the information collected by a tip line, with notification and follow up requirements to ensure accountability and improvement in the operation of the system. Mrs. Payne concluded her presentation by outlining the number of suicides and incidents of violence that had been

prevented in Colorado as a result of the implementation and successful administration of the Safe2Tell program.

ANNUAL REPORT ON SCHOOL FINANCE AUDITS.

Pam Robinson, Department of Audit, Public Funds Division and Justin Chavez, Department of Audit, School Finance Audit Manager, provided the Committee with an update on the audits performed in FY 2012-2013 related to school finance. See [Appendix 12](#). Mr. Chavez stated seven full district audits were performed to audit FY 2010-11. In addition, he noted a multi-purpose vehicle (MPV) blitz audit was performed in the spring of 2013, auditing SY 2001-11 data, and two information technology audits were also performed. He summarized the issues identified in the full audits, including ADM, payroll and data security issues. Mr. Chavez gave an overview of the findings in relation to the MPV blitz audit, including three of seven districts should have made an adjustment in SY 10-11 and did not, 23 of 29 districts should have made an adjustment in a year prior to SY 10-11 but did not; many districts reporting 100% student use did not maintain logs; many logs were illegible or were missing critical information; activity trips to non-Wyoming High School Athletic Association sanctioned events and activity/field trips to destinations beyond 150 miles of the Wyoming border occurred. He recommended the Department of Education institute a review process for mileage logs, retain mileage logs for at least seven years, remind districts when vehicles are in the final year of reimbursement and compare amounts reimbursed to allowable reimbursements. In relation to the information technology audits, Mr. Chavez noted he focused on security of student data, network architecture, physical and logical security.

EDUCATION INFORMATION / DATA SYSTEMS.

Flint Waters, Chief Information Officer, Enterprise Technology Services, spoke to the Committee about several issues related to educational information and student information, including the P20 Statewide Longitudinal Data System Assessment (see [Appendix 13](#)) and Infrastructure (see [Appendix 14](#)). He also presented a report on ETS and WDE Joint Task Force activities. See [Appendix 15](#). He noted that he is assisting state agencies in compliance with public record requests in some instances. Mr. Waters noted in assisting the Department of Education in response to a request for records, it was discovered the email for Kevin Lewis and Superintendent Hill were not present. He stated he worked with software experts to extract the missing information from previous servers. Mr. Waters also summarized the work of ETS in relation to the educator credentialing, assignment validation and reporting system for the Professional Teaching Standards Board and the WDE. See [Appendix 16](#). He discussed the work conducted in relation to the unified network Phase I and II activities (see [Appendix 17](#)) and the ETS expenditures (see [Appendix 18](#)).

HATHAWAY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS.

Matt Sackett, Legislative Service Office, Research and Planning, briefed the Committee on the possibility of increasing Hathaway Scholarship awards and described the potential impacts of increasing the Hathaway Scholarship award dollar amounts and the different factors that may affect the financial obligations of the Hathaway Scholarship Endowment Account in the future. See [Appendix 19](#). He outlined a variety of options available, concluding that if all factors are held constant except enrollment projections, an increase from 13% to 34% of scholarship awards may be feasible, depending on the Committee's goals.

UPDATE REPORT ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

Steve Corsi, Director of the Department of Family Services and Jillian Balow, Department of Family Services, Early Childhood Administrator, spoke to the Committee about pre-school and early childhood programs as administered across the State of Wyoming to children by various state agencies, including

the Department of Education, Department of Family Service, the Department of Health, the Department of Agriculture, the federal government and other entities. **See Appendix 20.** Mrs. Balow outlined the recommendations of the Early Education Policy Steering Committee convened by the Governor. She stated the goal of the Steering Committee is to provide a more cohesive and coordinated opportunity for early childhood education statewide. She suggested that a single point of contact and agency be established to coordinate the efforts in relation to early childhood, citing the WDE as the most logical location for the office. She spoke about the potential goals of the office when created, including establishing an interagency agreement between key agencies to define roles and responsibilities, statewide deployment of Wyoming Early Learning Foundations, collaboration and coordination of all agencies impacted (k-12 education, local agencies, early education and care programs and p-20 longitudinal data systems).

GENERAL STATUS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Chairman Teeter called for testimony by the State Superintendent related to the statutorily required report on the general status of schools required W.S. 21-2-201(b). There was no one present from the State Superintendent's Office to testify on the matter.

RECESS.

Chairman Teeters recessed the meeting at 6:45 p.m. on October 25, 2013 (Thursday). Chairman Coe reconvened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. on October 26, 2013 (Friday).

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Richard Crandall, Director, Wyoming Department of Education, briefed the Committee on several issues related to the administration of the Department of Education. He summarized the changes to the organizational structure, announcing new hires and discussing existing vacancies. Director Crandall noted the difficulty in securing appropriate expertise to fill the positions for information and data technology. He stated this is a highly competitive field and potential salaries that can be offered by the WDE are not competitive. He moved on to discussion of programmatic and educational goals that the State should strive to improve and excel at. Specifically, he requested the Legislature incentivize desired outcomes by increasing participation in advanced proficiency and international baccalaureate classes, adequately preparing students for highly technical careers and focusing on school accountability ratings. Several Committee members encouraged Director Crandall to explore increasing the opportunities for advanced classes, which will need to include professional development of teachers and possibly increasing financial resources. Director Crandall responded to the comments, suggesting utilization of the Hathaway Scholarship to incentivize participation in advanced classes. He moved on to discussion of the statewide broadband initiative, noting the efforts with the Department of Enterprise Technology in this regard. Director Crandall supported the creation of a model for course choice and distance learning in the future. He also suggested that partner and community communication by the Department be increased, including implementation of data dashboard and better utilization of formative assessment data and information. Director Crandall noted his support for competency-based demonstration projects, such as summer acceleration classes and early learning opportunities. He commented on the presentation on early childhood as presented by various agencies yesterday, noting his excitement about a comprehensive program to address young children. Director Crandall invited Committee members to participate in national educational conferences and offered assistance in facilitating if necessary.

Jed Cicarelli, School Foundation Program, Wyoming Department of Education, spoke to the Committee regarding the Department's review of the education data reporting. **See Appendix 21.** He summarized the background information related to this work, noting that approximately 47 of the 64 data collections

are mandatory with the remainder being optional. Mr. Cicarelli moved on to discussion of the recommendation related to data collection. In relation to the WDE 100(B), Vocational Education Student FTE Worksheet, he recommended further study on the feasibility of automating the vocational education worksheets in consultation with the advisory committee. He suggested the collection of litigation expenses by the Department be eliminated. Mr. Cicarelli stated the Data Advisory Board and the Department recommend rules and regulation be promulgated to allow the inclusion of full-time instructional facilitators, certified tutors, librarians and counselors holding national board certification through NBPTS. He noted legislative clarification of “teacher” as used in W.S. 21-7-501(f)(ii) may be needed to rectify this issue. Mr. Cicarelli moved on to the recommendation by the Data Advisory Board and Department to eliminate the collection of data for bonded indebtedness mill levy supplement and capital lease grants. He suggested repealing W.S. 21-15-105. He moved on to recommend amendment of W.S. 21-13-310(a)(ix) to eliminate collection of dual and concurrent revenues received under W.S. 21-20-201 from the local revenue computation. Mr. Cicarelli suggested the end of year staffing collection (WDE652) and the additional teacher qualification elements on the WDE 602/652 be eliminated. He noted the Data Advisory Board also recommended elimination of the WDE 614 and 618 Spring and Fall Reporting Certification Checklists, however, the Department did not agree with this recommendation. Mr. Cicarelli suggested the Data Advisory Board and the Department continue to improve the WDE633 Certified Staff Vacancy and Applicant Information. He concluded with discussion of the WDE684 Consolidation, which strives to consolidate six collection and eliminate approximately 50 duplicative data items.

Director Crandall concluded this portion of the presentation by noting there are multiple reports required for the Department to submit to the JEC. He stated several staff members are currently working on compiling this information and that the reports will be forthcoming. Lastly, he requested the Committee consider tabling the discussion related to distance education and the draft bills on the afternoon agenda related to this subject. (See **14LSO-0049.W1** and **14LSO-0050.W1** on file in the **Legislative Service Office**). Director Crandall would like additional time to explore and analyze the options available. Chairman Coe agreed to this approach and to remove the noted draft legislation from discussion.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Paige Fenton Hughes, Wyoming State Board of Education, Coordinator, discussed mechanisms to increase communication regarding activities related to administration and implementation of the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act. See **Appendix 22**. She noted the State Board is committed to improving channels of communication among interested education stakeholders statewide. Dr. Fenton Hughes cited several examples and actions by the State Board to improve communication. She discussed the various comments received during the summits held to discuss Phase I of the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act. Senator Anderson requested the State Board and the Department work together with stakeholders to publish a position paper on the use and goals for the statewide assessment system and the accountability work. He requested the document be concise and factual, focusing on a uniform, understandable message.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS.

Chairman Coe noted the memo as drafted by staff regarding the Joint Education Committee's recommendation to the Joint Appropriations Committee on an external cost adjustment for the school finance model. See **Appendix 23**. He stated the draft memo reflected his understanding of the motion on this subject and asked that the memo be forwarded to the Joint Appropriations Committee.

DRAFT LEGISLATION.

Senator Landen moved, seconded by Senator Rothfuss, that legislation be drafted to increase the Hathaway Scholarship by ten percent (10%) to be voted on by ballot by the Committee. Chairman Teeters clarified that the ten percent (10%) is a placeholder and that he would encourage Committee members not represent that the Committee agreed ten percent (10%) was the appropriate amount or that there was substantial discussion on the percentage. Senator Landen agreed. The motion passed.

14LSO-0098.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation to require school bus video equipment on school buses statewide. See [Appendix 24](#). Chairman Teeters moved, seconded by Senator Rothfuss, the Joint Education Committee sponsor the draft legislation. Representative Pippainen expressed concern regarding the installation of internal cameras and privacy issues. Chairman Teeters stated internal cameras are standard equipment on the majority of buses in Wyoming current. The motion for the JEC to sponsor 14 LSO-0098.W1 passed via a roll-call vote. See [Appendix 24A](#). Chairman Teeters stated the bill will begin in the House

14LSO-0044.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation for early childhood programs to provide funds to local governments to develop appropriate programs. See [Appendix 25](#).

Representative Connolly suggested a conceptual amendment to consolidate 14LSO-0044.W1 and 14LSO-0122.W1 (see [Appendix 26](#)) and to incorporate recommendations provided by various entities the day prior related to early childhood programs and education. See [Appendix 27](#). She noted the amendments would include charging the Department of Education with oversight of early childhood to ensure the efforts by the multiple agencies are administered in a thoughtful and coordinator manner. She noted it would create a division under the Department to undertake this work and provide funding for this effort. Representative Connolly noted the timeframe would be three years as opposed to the one-year previously provided. Chairman Coe inquired about allocation of funds from the general fund as opposed to the School Foundation Program. Staff responded the School Foundation Program is typically utilized for education of the K-12 program and limited to educational purposes, but that it is the discretion of the Committee to dictate the funding source. Senator Anderson expressed concern regarding imposition of duties or narrowing of the scope of services to be provided by the conceptual legislation. Senator Landen expressed concern regarding the approach and reliance on local communities in instances where local entities may not have services to offer. Chairman Teeters express support for the conceptual draft. Chairman Coe echoed those comments and noted that the draft legislation is only in the very early stages of legislative consideration. Senator Anderson clarified that he supports moving the legislation forward in a cautious manner. Representative Patton expressed support for the blended approach with a note of caution. Representative Pippainen inquired about the increase of FTE related to this proposal. Representative Connolly noted that there previously was an early childhood person employed at the WDE, but this position was utilized in another manner. She further noted that it was the consensus of the Governor's Steering Committee on Early Childhood that the responsibilities be placed with the Department of Education.

Chairman Teeters moved, seconded by Senator Rothfuss, the Joint Education Committee sponsor the draft legislation 14LSO-0044.W1 as amended by the concepts expressed by Representative Connolly. Representative Connolly moved, seconded by Representative Sommers, moved 14LSO-0044.W1 be amended to reflect the conceptual amendments as explained. The motion for the JEC to sponsor 14 LSO-

0044.W1 as amended passed via a roll-call vote. **See Appendix 25A.** Chairman Teeters stated bill will start in the House.

14LSO-0122.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation for early childhood programs. **See Appendix 26.** Several members commented on the components of the draft legislation, noting several concepts will be included in 14LSO-0044.W1 as amended. The Committee took no further action on 14LSO-0122.W1.

14LSO-0045.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation for early childhood program via an endowment and foundation. **See Appendix 28.** Chairman Coe expressed concern with the legislation and the amount provided by the draft legislation. Chairman Teeters expressed concern, requesting the bill be postponed to allow 14LSO-0044.W1 the opportunity to move forward. The Committee took no further action on 14LSO-0045.W1.

14LSO-0043.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation for administration of a mandatory kindergarten readiness assessment. **See Appendix 29.** Senator Rothfuss stated he requested the bill be drafted and made the motion regarding the draft at the last Committee meeting. He stated upon further consideration, he would like to withdraw the draft from Committee consideration. There was no further action taken by the Committee on 14LSO-0043.W1.

14LSO-0083.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation related to Hathaway eligibility and scholarship use. **See Appendix 30.** Senator Landen moved, seconded by Senator Rothfuss, the Joint Education Committee sponsor the draft legislation 14LSO-0083.W1. The motion passed via a roll-call vote. **See Appendix 30A.** Chairman Coe stated the bill will begin in the Senate.

14LSO-0085.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation related to alternative schools, which will allow for the creation of new alternative schools. **See Appendix 31.** Representative Sommers moved, seconded by Representative Freeman, the Joint Education Committee sponsor the draft legislation 14LSO-0085.W1. Several committee members commented on the proposed legislation. Superintendent Jay Harnack noted his support of the proposed legislation. Senator Rothfuss requested the language penciled in on page 4-lines 4 and 5 be included in the final draft. Chairman Coe stated the bill will begin in the House. The motion passed via a roll-call vote. **See Appendix 31A.**

14LSO-0153.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation related to national board certified teachers, which clarifies pay incentives will be provided to instructional facilitators, certified tutors, librarians and counselors. **See Appendix 32.** Chairman Teeters moved, seconded by Representative Freeman, the Joint Education Committee sponsor the draft legislation 14LSO-0153.W1. Substantial discussion was undertaken by the Committee on the incentives for national board certified teachers and the definition of “teacher” for this purpose. Mr. Jed Cicarelli spoke to the Committee about the national board certified teacher incentives and the inter-relation with highly qualified as designated by the Professional Teaching Standards Board. He also addressed the financial impact of the legislation, which is a \$4000 annual payment for the period of 10 years for each teacher added. The motion passed via a roll-call vote. **See Appendix 32A.** Chairman Coe stated the bill will begin in the Senate.

14LSO-0167.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation related to school finance and clarification of the calculation of local resources in relation to post-secondary education options provided under W.S. 21-20-201. **See Appendix 33.** Representative Connolly moved, seconded by Senator Rothfuss, the Joint Education Committee sponsor the draft legislation 14LSO-0167.W1. The motion passed via a roll-call vote. **See Appendix 33A.** Chairman Coe stated the bill will begin in the Senate.

14LSO-0168.W1

LSO staff explained the draft legislation related to elimination of the data collection for bonded indebtedness mill levy supplement. **See Appendix 34.** Chairman Teeters moved, seconded by Senator Rothfuss, the Joint Education Committee sponsor the draft legislation 14LSO-0168.W1. The motion passed via a roll-call vote. **See Appendix 34A.** Chairman Coe stated the bill will begin in the House.

CLOSING BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Representative Piiparinen commented that he felt the comments made in response to the testimony by Mr. Flint Waters testimony and the missing emails of Kevin Lewis and Superintendent Hill were inappropriate and apologized for not speaking up the day prior.

Kirk Schmidt, Fremont County School District 21, noted concern regarding the use of video evidence for issuing tickets and enforcement based on the video footage. Co-chairman Teeters noted it was his opinion that video evidence can be utilized for prosecution, but that it is discretionary and the variance is as a result of alternative interpretations by county attorneys. Chairman Coe requested input from staff. Staff noted the opinion issued by LSO previously on the issue during the June or July meeting; stating a copy of the opinion would be redistributed to Committee members. Mr. Schmidt further requested the Committee approach the data collection issues cautiously. He indicated it was his experience and belief that the data collections by the Department are, in large part, appropriate and necessary and discouraged the Committee from eliminating too many. Mr. Schmidt applauded the working relationship between the Department and the district in collection of data. He also noted the decline of audit findings by the Department of Audit.

Superintendent Hill stated she was unaware she was supposed to report the day prior during the Committee's meeting. She read an email from September 24, 2013 related to the issue, noting it was her opinion that the report required is better received by the Committee in written format than a verbal report. Superintendent Hill thanked Representative Piiparinen for his comment and requested the Committee read the report.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Co-Chairman Teeters adjourned the meeting at 1:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Teeters, Co-Chairman

Committee Meeting Materials Index

| Appendix | Agenda Item | Appendix Description | Appendix Provider |
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| 1 | Committee Sign-In Sheet | Lists meeting attendees | Legislative Service Office |
| 2 | Committee Meeting Agenda | Provides an outline of the topics the Committee planned to address at meeting | Legislative Service Office |
| 3 | CREG Revenue Projections Update. | Report: Wyoming State Government Revenue Forecast, <i>Fiscal Year 2014-Fiscal Year 2018</i> , Consensus Revenue Estimating Group, October 2013 | Legislative Service Office |
| 4 | CREG Revenue Projections Update. | Report: Fiscal Profile for 2013-14: October 2013 CREG revenue forecast (10/23/2013) | Legislative Service Office |
| 5 | School Finance Monitoring Series of Reports. | Notebook: Monitoring the Cost-Basis of the K-12 Wyoming Funding Model, prepared by the LSO School Finance Section, prepared for the Joint Education Committee & the Joint Appropriations Committee, Final Report – October 2013 | Legislative Service Office, Wyoming Workforce Services-Research and Planning, Dr. Christiana Stoddard (Legislative Consultant), Wyoming Department of Education |
| 6 | School Finance Monitoring Series of Reports. | Power point: Indicators of Cost Pressures for Teaching Salaries in Wyoming, October 24, 2014, Report to Joint Education Committee | Dr. Christiana Stoddard (Legislative Consultant) |
| 7 | School Finance Monitoring Series of Reports. | Table and graph: Cost Indices for the Four Major Funding-Model Components | Legislative Service Office |
| 8 | School Safety & Security Reports. | Report: Wyoming School Safety and Security Task Force, Report and Recommendations, October 24, 2013 | Governor's Task Force on School Safety and Security |
| 9 | School Safety & Security Reports. | Report: Wyoming Comprehensive Public Safety Planning Model | Governor's Task Force on School Safety and Security |
| 10 | School Safety & Security Reports. | Report: Safe2Tell, Dashboard Tip Report, October 2013 | Susan Payne, Colorado Attorney General's Office |
| 11 | School Safety & Security | Report: Impact Report, Safe2Tell | Susan Payne, Colorado |

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| | Reports. | | Attorney General's Office |
| 12 | Annual Report on School Finance Audits | Power point: Department of Audit, Update on Audits Performed in FY2012-2013, presented to the JEC on October 24, 2013 | Wyoming Department of Audit, Pam Robinson and Justin Chavez |
| 13 | Education Information/Data Systems | Memo: To Senator Hank Coe and Representative Teeters (Chairs of the JEC); Subject: P20 Statewide Longitudinal Data System Assessment; Date: October 24, 2013 | Department of Enterprise Technology Services, Flint Waters and Meredith Bickell |
| 14 | Education Information/Data Systems | Memo: To Senator Hank Coe and Representative Teeters (Chairs of the JEC); Subject: P20 Statewide Longitudinal Data System Infrastructure; Date: October 24, 2013 | Department of Enterprise Technology Services, Flint Waters and Meredith Bickell |
| 15 | Education Information/Data Systems | Memo: To Senator Hank Coe and Representative Teeters (Chairs of the JEC); Subject: ETS and WDE Joint Task Force; Date: October 24, 2013 | Department of Enterprise Technology Services, Flint Waters and Meredith Bickell |
| 16 | Education Information/Data Systems | Memo: To Senator Hank Coe and Representative Teeters (Chairs of the JEC); Subject: Educator Credentialing, Assignment, Validation and Reporting System; Date: October 24, 2013 | Department of Enterprise Technology Services, Flint Waters and Meredith Bickell |
| 17 | Education Information/Data Systems | Memo: To Senator Hank Coe and Representative Teeters (Chairs of the JEC); Subject: Unified Network Phase I and II; Date: October 24, 2013 | Department of Enterprise Technology Services, Flint Waters and Meredith Bickell |
| 18 | Education Information/Data Systems | Memo: To Senator Hank Coe and Representative Teeters (Chairs of the JEC); Subject: Enterprise Education Information Technology Expenditures; Date: October 24, 2013 | Department of Enterprise Technology Services, Flint Waters and Meredith Bickell |
| 19 | Hathaway Scholarship Awards | Issue Brief: October 17, 2013; Author: Matt Sackett; Re: Hathaway Scholarship Award Increases | Legislative Service Office |
| 20 | Update Report on Early Childhood Education and Development Programs | Whitepaper: Early Education Policy Steering Committee Recommendations, October 24, 2013 | Governor's Early Education Policy Steering Committee |
| 21 | Department of Education | Memo: Date: October 24, 2013; To: Members, Joint Education Committee; From: Jed Cicarelli, School Foundation Program, Wyoming Department of Education; Subject: Review of Education | Wyoming Department of Education |

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| | | Data Reporting. | |
| 22 | State Board of Education | Memo: To: Joint Education Committee; From: Dr. Paige Fenton-Hughes, Coordinator; Date: October 16, 2013; Subject: Mechanisms to increase communication. | State Board of Education, Dr. Paige Fenton-Hughes, Coordinator |
| 23 | School Finance Monitoring Series of Reports. | Draft memo prepared by Legislative Service Office (Re: Recommendations on School Finance ECA). | Legislative Service Office |
| 24 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0098.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 24A | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0098.W1 – Vote Record | Legislative Service Office |
| 25 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0044.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 25A | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0044.W1 – Vote Record | Legislative Service Office |
| 26 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0122.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 27 | Draft Legislation | Outline: Conceptual framework for revisions to 14LSO-0044.W1 | Representative Cathy Connolly |
| 28 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0045.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 29 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0043.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 30 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0083.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 30A | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0083.W1 – Vote Record | Legislative Service Office |
| 31 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0085.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 31A | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0085.W1– Vote Record | Legislative Service Office |
| 32 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0153.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 32A | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0153.W1 – Vote Record | Legislative Service Office |
| 33 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0167.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 33A | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0167.W1 – Vote Record | Legislative Service Office |
| 34 | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0168.W1 | Legislative Service Office |
| 34A | Draft Legislation | 14LSO-0168.W1– Vote Record | Legislative Service Office |